



California Regional Water Quality Control Board

Los Angeles Region



Linda S. Adams
Cal/EPA Secretary

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Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

May 19, 2010

Mr. Joseph Kwan
Northrop Grumman Corporation
1840 Century Park East
Los Angeles, CA 90067-2199

LEAD AGENCY TRANSFER IMPLEMENTED - FORMER TRW, INC. / BENCHMARK TECHNOLOGY FACILITY, 200 TURNBULL CANYON ROAD, CITY OF INDUSTRY, CALIFORNIA, 91748 (CAO NO. 89-034, WIP NO. 102.0007, SITE ID 2040124)

Dear Mr. Kwan:

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region (Regional Board), has been the lead agency for overseeing cleanup activities at the former TRW Inc. / Benchmark Technology Facility (Benchmark). This oversight has extended over a period of many years and has included site investigations and remedial actions. The Regional Board has entered into a Cooperative Agreement with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), the federal agency responsible for implementing the Superfund law (CERCLA), for the purpose of identifying sources of pollution in the Puente Valley Operable Unit (PVOU) and overseeing site specific soil and groundwater assessments and cleanups.

Per our letter of March 4, 2010, staff at the Regional Board and USEPA have determined it is appropriate to transfer the Lead Agency role for the Benchmark site to the USEPA. Our rationale is as follows:

- The USEPA is in a better position to oversee the Benchmark remedial system design and startup within the context of the CERCLA regional remedy for the PVOU.
- Discharge options are being evaluated for the regional remedy and the final selection will be more easily applied to the Benchmark remedial system as it is integrated with the regional remedy.

We received your letter of March 18, 2010 agreeing to this transition. You and other interested persons are notified with this letter that the transfer of lead oversight responsibilities for this site from the Regional Board to USEPA will now commence.

Staff from the two agencies will meet to discuss transition tasks including review and duplication as necessary of case files and issuance of a new USEPA directive for cleanup activities (and termination of the Regional Board's Cleanup and Abatement Order once the USEPA directive is in place). We expect that there will be a transition period of several months as USEPA assumes lead oversight responsibilities. We will notify you when the transfer is finalized.

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Mr. Joseph Kwan, Northrop Grumman Corporation
Former Benchmark Technology Facility

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May 19, 2010

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Don Indermill at (213) 576-6811 or Mr. Jeffrey Hu at (213) 576-6736.

Sincerely,



Samuel Unger
Interim Executive Officer

cc: Kathleen Salyer, USEPA, Region IX, San Francisco
Raymond Chavira, USEPA, Region IX, San Francisco
Lewis Maldonado, USEPA, Region IX, San Francisco
Chris Volz, McKenna, Long & Aldridge, LLP
Jackie Spizman, Department of Toxic Substances Control
Carol Williams, Main San Gabriel Basin Watermaster
Grace Kast, San Gabriel Basin Water Quality Authority
Linda Niemeyer, Watermark

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